SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,

CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RÁJPÚTÁNÁ.

Received up to 11th July, 1887.

POLITICAL.

The Núr Afshán (Ludhiana), of the 7th July, says that Mahárája Dalíp Singh has forfeited Mahárája Dalíp Singh. all claim to public sympathy by his ungrateful conduct towards the British Government. are few newspapers which sympathize with him. He appears to have become mad; for his preposterous desire to regain possession of the Panjab is inexplicable in any other way. He has returned to the Sikh religion, but he is mistaken if he fancies that his adoption of the religion of his fathers will induce Panjábis to espouse his cause. There are still among us persons who lived in the Panjáb in the time of the Sikh rule, and who know very well what that rule meant. Dalip Singh has gone to Russia in the hope that the Russian Government will assist him in conquering the Panjab; but he can do no harm to the British Indian Empire. If the British Government shows to natives the same amount of kindness that it does to Europeans, repeals the Arms Act, and encourages native volunteering, the millions of this country will readily sacrifice their lives and property on its behalf.

Circulation, 690 copies.

Circulation, 180 copies. The Nojmu-l-Akhbár (Etáwah), of the 1st July, adverting to the spread of sensational rumours by newspapers regarding Mahárája Dalíp Singh, says that if the Russian Government sends an expedition to this country under the command of the Mahárája, the British Government will have good reason to congratulate itself on the measure. The memory of the tyranny and oppression of Sikh rule will induce the Muhammadan frontier tribes and the Muhammadan population of the Panjáb to encounter the Russian army the more strongly.

Circulation, 400 copies.

The Nydya Sudha (Harda), of the 6th July, says that Mahárája Dalíp Singh was not well The same. advised in going to Russia. He is mistaken if he thinks that the Russian Government will invade this country in compliance with his wishes. Hitherto prayers were always offered at the Sikh temples at Lahore and Amritsar for his long life and prosperity, but they have been discontinued since he has made friends with the Russian Government. This is a good index to the loyalty of Sikhs. It is a matter of deep regret that still the British Government does not trust them and did not allow the Maharaja to return to this country for fear of an outbreak of a Sikh rebellion. The British Government should not have offended Dalip Singh and then allowed him to go over to the Russian Government. If he had good claims to an increase in his pension, a suitable increase should have beengranted to him.

Circulation, 815 copies. The Delhi Punch (Lahore), of the 6th July, states that Mahárája Dalíp Singh and it is rumoured that Mahárája Dalíp the Amír of Kabul. Singh lately asked the Emperor of Russia to lend him an army in order that he might invade this country. On this orders were at once sent to General Melikoff to enquire from the Amír of Kabul what help he would give to the Mahárája, and the Mahárája was told to held himself in readiness. Dalíp Singh has assured the Russian Government of the sympathy of some Kuka Sardars towards him. It would seem that Abdul Rahmán sympathizes with

the Russian Government, and will cast in his lot with it on the occasion of an outbreak of hostilities. The British Government should be on its guard against him and prepare itself for the impending struggle.

The Akhbár-i-Am (Lahore), of the 2nd July, says that the Amir of Kabul, annoyed at the Amir of Kabul. Ghilzai rebellion, declared at an open darbar that the British Boundary Commission was the root of all the evil. The proceedings of the Commission, far from checking Russian aggression, have only tended to encourage it. Abdul Rahmán is not justified in laying the blame for the revolt in his dominions at the door of the British Government. He has only himself to thank for all his troubles. His avarice and cruelty bave created widespread discontent and led to a powerful insurrection. If he is defeated by the rebels, he is sure to be killed. The popular disaffection is so great against the Amír that when a mulla preaches loyalty and sympathy towards His Highness, the people turn their backs on him saying that they will never own allegiance to such a cruel and blood-thirsty Prince.

Circulation, 3,000 copies.

The Oudh Akhbár (Lucknow), of the 7th July, in a communicated article, adverting to the Afghanistán. rebellion of Ghilzais and Shinwaris against the Amír, says that if the rumours regarding the revolt of his troops on account of non-payment of arrears of pay, and the intended despatch of British troops to Quetta are well founded, the rebellion in Afghanistán must be supposed to have assumed formidable dimensions. The British Government should pursue a more vigorous policy in the future. Abdul Rahman Khan has already been induced to think that the British Government will not fight with the Russian Government on account of the identity of their religions, and before long he will probably consider the former Government no match for the other. It is time that the Government of India should strongly fortify the frontier and establish its influence on Afghan tribes.

Circulation, 595 copies.

Circulation, 240 copies.

The Azad (Lucknow), of the 8th July, adverting to the threat of war held out by the French Anglo-Turkish Convenand the Russian powers to the Sultan tion and the French and the Russian Governments. in order to prevent him from ratifying the Anglo-Turkish Convention regarding Egypt, says that the treaty was sure to evoke opposition. It was impossible that the French Government should view it with indifference. It is time that the British Government should turn its attention from Egypt to the Indian frontier. The state of affairs in Afghanistan is very unsatisfactory, and gives ground for serious apprehension. The appointment of Iskandar Khán as the Governor of Panjdeh by the Russian Government will have a very bad effect on Afghanistan.

Circulation, 450 copies.

The Panjábí Akhbár (Lahore), of the 2nd July, adverting to the Anglo-Turkish Convention, Anglo-Turkish Convention and the Sultan of Turkey. says that it will not be surprised if the British Government has induced the Turkish Prime Minister. to accept the treaty by paying him a large bribe, as surmised by the Russian Envoy at Constantinople. It is well known that during the last Russo-Turkish war the success of the Russian arms was in no small degree due to Russian gold. position of the Sultan is at present very critical. If he follows the advice of any single European power, he is sure to lose his throne, as he has already been threatened by the Russian Government with war. He should refer both the Egyptian and the Bulgarian questions to all the great powers,. and have them settled at a general congress.

Circulation, 180 copies.

The Najmu-l-Akhbar (Etawah), of the 4th July, regrets to say that the Egyptian difficulty has not yet been settled, obviously because of the selfishness of the British Government and the jealousy of the French and the Russian Governments. Apart from the opposition of the French and the Russian powers to the Anglo-Turkish Convention, they do not like to see friendly relations subsist between the Porte and the British Government. Whenever the Sultan shows an inclination to enter into a friendly alliance with the British power,

the Russian Government calls upon the Porte to pay the war indemnity. Hence the British Government had better pay the indemnity to the St. Petersburg Government on behalf of the Porte in order that the Sultan may be free to conclude an alliance with it.

The Hindustán (Kálákankar), of the 10th July, says that Treatment of Indian it would appear from the Bombay Princes in England. Gazette that the Indian Princes did not receive due consideration in England. If the rumour is well founded, the matter cannot be too deeply regretted. Indian Chiefs are often insulted by Political Agents and Residents in this country, but it is surprising that due honour was not shown to them even in England, which is pre-eminently the land of freedom, and where slaves cannot breathe. They were induced only by their loyalty and devotion to the British throne to undertake a voyage to England, at a great expense and personal inconvenience, and in utter disregard of their religious prejudices, in order to take part in the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. Had they been treated with due respect on such an auspicious occasion, their loyalty would have received a great stimulus. If they did not receive that amount of consideration which they deserved, their loyalty is sure to be affected by this to some extent. But it may be hoped they were properly treated by Her Majesty, and they have ground for complaint only with reference to the conduct of officials.

Circulation, 165 copies.

The Rafiq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 2nd July, is glad to

Celebration of the Jubilee by the Musalmans of pur, with the assistance of Sheikh
Hoshiarpur.

Mihr Ali, celebrated the Jubilee

on the 21st June, in a suitable way. Prayers were offered
for Her Majesty's health and long life, and all the Muham
madan mosques were finely illuminated at night.

The Julilee Paper (Lucknow), of the 1st July, says

Prince Sahdeo Singh and that it will be remembered that
the Express. when General Gordon was killed by
rebels in the Soudan, the Express declared that Indian

Circulation, 400 copies. Musalmans expressed joy at the General's death, and offered prayers in their mosques. The Express had soon afterwards to retract its statement. Now the journey of Prince Sahdeo Singh, Maharaja Dalip Singh's nephew, from Rae Bareli to Lucknow, has excited the suspicions of that newspaper. The Express asks why the Prince has gone to Lucknow and why he intends to go thence to Allahabad. It is well known that the Prince often goes to Lucknow and lives there continually for several months. He has never shown any sign of disloyalty. Above all, he has no power and can do no harm.

Circulation, 80 copies.

The Panjáb Punch (Lahore), of the 7th July, publishes

Burma honours and a picture in which the Government
rewards. of India is represented as distributing
honours and rewards among European military officers for
service in Burma, and native military officers as entreating
the Government to give them a share in the rewards.

Circulation, 200 copies.

The Alam-i-Taswir (Cawnpore), of the Ist July, says that the Delhi correspondent of the Deru-l-Saltanat newspaper, Calcutta. Dáru-l-Saltanat of Calcutta states that, when Musalmans left the Jama-i-Masjid and the Idgah at the conclusion of their prayers on the day of the Id, the streets situated near the mosque were filled with Muhammadans carrying umbrellas of different colours, and presented a very picturesque appearance. The large crowds showed the greatness of Islam, but as they were not led by a Muhammadan King, they looked like a marriage procession without the bridegroom. The Alam does not approve of the idea expressed by the writer in the Calcutta newspaper in his last sentence; and says that it shows that he has had few opportunities for appreciating the merits of British rule. Bahadur Shah was the last head of the Muhammadan community in this country. Muhammadan supremacy in Northern India, especially in the Panjab, had, however, really ended even before his time. True, Muhammad Shah was also considered by the then Musalmans as their head, and his name was even

read in khutbas, but the present generation of Musalmans, who have had occasion to read an account of the immoral life he led, greatly prefer British rule to his. The ulma or the learned Maulvis are the real heads or leaders of the Muhammadan community, and it is well known that these learned men have always been persecuted by Muhammadan Kings. Musalmans should be highly thankful to the British Government for the full religious liberty it has granted to them, The writer in the Calcutta journal lays himself open to the charge of ingratitude by expressing sentiments such as that above referred to.

The Mashir-i-Qaisar (Lucknow), of the 5th July, in answer to the strictures of the Alam-The same.

Circulation, 200 copies,

i-Taswir against the comments of the writer in the Dáru-l-Saltanat on the Id celebration at Delhi, says that the Alam would do well to tell what the blessings of British rule are. Does the Cawnpore journal consider the frequent occurrence of famines, the increase of falsehood, perjury, bribery, theft, drunkenness, and prostitution, the spread of infidelity and the instruction of foreign languages as the blessings of British rule? regards the termination of Muhammadan supremacy in the time of Bahádur Sháh, nothing is permanent and durable The Alam blames Muhammad Shah for under the sun. the life he led, but the accounts of his life have been written by men like the editor of the Alam, and are consequently untrustworthy. The Mashir does not mean that Muhammadan rule was free from faults. But the Alam is not justified in condemning the Muhammadan rule as an unmitigated evil, and in representing even the faults of the British rule as blessings. As regards the religious liberty granted by the British Government to Musalmans, Muhammadan Kings never forbade Musalmans to assemble at the Delhi mosque in a large number for offering prayers. deed, they themselves built the mosque for the purpose. It would seem that there are at present Musalmans who take a pleasure in abusing their forefathers. O tempora! O mores!

NATIVE STATES.

Circulation, 180 copies. The Marwar Gazette (Jodhpur), of the 4th July, pubBestowal of titles on Mahárája Partap Singh, Jodhpur. lishes an account of the Darbar held
by Mahárája Kishor Singh, the
Commander-in-Chief of the Jodhpur army, on the 26th June,
to express satisfaction at the bestowal of the titles of Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp to the Prince of Wales on
Mahárája Partap Singh, on the occasion of the celebration
of the Jubilee in England. Mahárája Kishor Singh, in his
speech which was read out by Munshi Har Dial Singh,
expressed great joy at the bestowal of the titles on his brother
Maháraja Partap Singh, and praised his other brother, the
reigning Prince of the State, for his kindness towards them.
The darbar ended with a nautch

Circulation, . 381 copies.

that it appears from a London telegram that Maharaja Partap Singh, K.C.S.I., Prime Minister of Jodhpur, received the title of Field Marshal on the occasion of the celebration of the Jubilee. The title is a military one, and was not hitherto bestowed on any native. The British Government has, as it were, given a knife to the Maharaja, who was hitherto a kasai or butcher, without the necessary weapon, and made his title significant. (In the last sentence the word kasai is used in the double sense of K.C.S.I. and butcher.)

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Oirculation, 400 copies.

The Rafiq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 2nd July, does not understand why Mr. Hawkins, Officiating Divisional ciating Divisional Judge, has been again sent to Hoshiarpur. Were it the case that his absence from Hoshiarpur had made the Musalmans of the city proud, his re-transfer to the place would be necessary to break their pride. If not, the state of affairs at Hoshiarpur requires the Lieutenant-Governor's immediate attention. Mr. Harris, who committed Sheikh Mihr Ali to the

Bessions Judge for trial, is at present Officiating Deputy

Commissioner of Hoshiarpur,

The Mashir-i- Qaisar (Lucknow), of the 5th July, says that the income-tax for one year was Income-tax. levied in November last, and that the tax for another year is now being levied, so that the people have had to pay the tax for two years within one year. is really very hard. In November last the tax for only six months should have been levied. The British Government plumes itself on its justice, but obviously nothing could be more unjust than to assess the income-tax on the gross earnings of traders. The tax should be levied only on the net profits. It was expected that the tax would be abolished in honour of the Jubilee; but this has not been done, and still the Government expects the people to pray for its prosperity.

Circulation, 200 copies.

The Mihr-i-Nimroz (Bijnor), of the 7th July, regrets to say that at Bijnor Hindu and Muham-Hindu and Muhammadan officials at Bijnor. madan officials, and members of the Municipal Board, are greatly influenced by religious feelings in their opinions and proceedings, and advises them to act with justice and impartiality, otherwise it will publish their names in a future issue,

Circulation; 250 copies,

The Nastm-i-Agra, of the 7th July, says that when the Prevalence of bribery British rule was originally established in this country, European officers and corruption. used to complain of the prevalence of bribery and corruption, saying that the smaller fishes were swallowed up by the larger ones. But the state of things is at present much The evil has greatly increased, and officials in every worse. department are amenable to bribery. Subordinate officials, such as peshkárs, patwáris and kanúngoes, assess the income-tax even on ordinary shoe-makers, potters, blacksmiths, weavers, &c., simply in order to extort bribes from them. Measures should be adopted to check the evil.

Circulation, 385 copies.

A statement showing the religious, &c., of the people called for by the Panjab Government.

The Akhbar-i-Alam (Meerut), of the 5th July, says that the Panjab Government has called for, from each Commissioner in the a statement showing the Panjáb, religions to which the inhabitants of

Circulation, 63 copies.

the various districts under his jurisdiction belong, the places where they originally lived, and the education they have received. It is not known why such a statement has been ordered to be prepared for the Panjáb.

Circulation, 200 copies. The Subodh Sindhu (Khandwa), of the 6th July, is glad

Pecuniary aid given by the Deputy Commissioner of Khandwa to a native student for the prosecution of his studies.

Khandwa to a native student for the prosecution of his studies.

Khandwa to a native studies to prosecute his further studies

on account of his father's poverty, called upon Mr. Phillips, the Deputy Commissioner of Khandwa, and asked for an appointment in the public service, Mr. Phillips told him to continue his studies, giving him Rs. 50 in cash, and promising to supply him books of an equal amount.

LEGISLATION,

Circulation, 450 copies. The Bharat Bandhu (Aligarh), of the 1st July, says that
the Government of India, struck
for the restitution of conjuwith sympathy for Rukmabai, desires
to modify the provisions of section

260 of the Civil Procedure Code, with a view to exempting women from liability to imprisonment in execution of decrees for the restitution of conjugal rights. The Supreme Government is of opinion that, if a wife does not agree to go to her husband in accordance with a decree for the restitution of conjugal rights, she should not be imprisoned, but that the decree should be treated as a decree for divorce, and that the husband or the wife, as the case may be, should be allowed to sue for compensation. The proposal has been referred to Local Governments and Administrations for opinion. The Bandhu condemns the proposal as injurious to Hindús and opposed to the policy of non-interference in religious matters pursued by the British Government. A Hindu marriage is a religious sacrament and not a civil contract. Moreover, it will be a great mistake to give full liberty to women, and to leave them without any restraint. Hence Hindus should strongly protest against the proposed change in the law.

Circulation,

The Subodh Sindhu (Khandwa), of the 6th July, comment-The same. ing on the same subject, says that among Hindús marriage has a close connection with religion, and that consequently Government would do well to consider whether it is justified in interfering with matrimonial matters. Although there is now no protector or teacher of the Hindu religion, the condition of the religion has not yet become so unsatisfactory as to stand in need of Every religion provides for improvement by foreigners. conjugal rights, and such rights provided for by the Hindu religion are the best, as will be admitted by all unprejudiced persons. In order to benefit one woman, especially a woman such as Rukmabai, who has incurred general odium by her misbehaviour, Government is not justified in modifying the law in a way which will be injurious to the whole Hindu population. True, some Hindus are in favour of the proposal, but their number compared with the others, who are opposed to it, is like a drop in the ocean. It will be remembered that when a large meeting was held at Bombay to consider the question of infant marriage and compulsory widowhood, of the 700 persons, who were present on the occasion, only 40 or 50 were found to be in favour of Government interference with the social customs above referred to. It is a mistake to think that all British laws and institutions will suit this country. There are Englishmen themselves who do not approve of the liberty enjoyed by women in England, In such matters Government should be guided by the opinion of learned orthodox Brahmans and not by that of would be Hindu teformers.

The Najmu-l-Akhbar (Etawah), of the 4th July, is surAllahabad University prised that, although the Allahabad
University Bill was introduced in the
Viceroy's Legislative Council on the 8th June, it has not
yet been published. It is almost needless to say that the
public is very anxious to know on what principles the University will be founded. Copies of Bills are generally supplied to native newspapers a very short time before the dates
fixed for their final consideration and passing by the

Circulation, 180 copies. Council, and consequently the comments of the newspapers are useless. As all classes of the people in these provinces are deeply interested in the University Bill, they should be given sufficient time, say two or three months, to think over and criticize the measure.

EDUCATION.

Circulation,

The Roh-i-Nur (Lahore), of the 7th July, in a communica-

Late quarrel between the Hon'ble Sayyid Ahmad Khan and some students of the Aligarh College:

between the Hon'ble Sayyid Ahmad Khan, and the students of the Aligarh Muhammadan College, who lived in

extense the letter sent by the students to the Sayyid protesting against the expulsion by him of a student from the boarding-house, and praises the respectful and moderate tone of the letter. The writer then quotes extracts from the Sayyid's reply, strongly condemns it, and observes in conclusion that no religious reformer ever abused boys and chased them in the way the Sayyid did at the boarding-house.

Circulation, \$,000 copies. A correspondent of the Akhbár-i-Am (Lahore), of the 2nd

Primary Schools in the Panjáb not supplied with mats. July, complains that, not to speak of benches and chairs, even matting is not supplied to Primary Schools in the

Panjáb, and that consequently students are obliged to squate on the bare ground.

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689	Panish Punch	Lahore	Urđú	Weekly	Firozu-l-dín	July 7th	July 11th	. 80 copies.
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1	Reformer			"	Shamsu-l-din	8	*	
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